

Children in Care and Care Leaver (Looked After Children) Policy			
Current Status	Operational	Last Review:	February 2023
Responsibility for Review:	Group Head of Welfare and Safeguarding	Next Review:	July 2025
Internal Approval:	SAT	Originated:	March 2022

1. Introduction and Scope: -

Our named teacher responsible for Children in Care and Care Leavers is

- Andrew Adamson - One 6th Form College.
- Stuart Small – Abbeygate 6th Form College

The Welfare Officer responsible for Children in Care and Care Leavers is

- Jackie Grimwood - One 6th Form College
- Lisa Bragg – Abbeygate 6th Form College

Our named governor responsible for Children in Care and Care Leavers is

- Karen Points.

- 1.1. This procedure has been written to reflect the needs of 'Children in Care', which can sometimes be known as Looked After Children and Care Leavers, as a response to the Government green paper on 'Care Matters – transforming the lives of children and young people in care October 2006.'
- 1.2. 'Children in Care' (CiC) can be some of our most vulnerable students attending courses in college and therefore certain actions need to be in place to ensure their educational success. Some will have not attended school regularly, may have been moved round to different foster/children's homes and may have lived chaotic lives.
- 1.3. This means that they may have had little stability. Suffer from mental health issues and may have attachment issues.

2. Purpose: -

To allow these students to access education and achieve their potential certain more supportive actions need to be undertaken.

2.1. Pre arrival

- 2.1.1. During the summer term of each academic year, the Virtual Schools, Children and Young Peoples Services/Leaving Care Teams will be offered a meeting with the Student Welfare Manager, to identify potential students ahead of the next academic year.
- 2.1.2. Students should be encouraged to apply for the College Bursary and details of the scheme will be provided to the Virtual school. This information will be emailed out to Social Work teams in order that they have the latest policy details too.

2.2. On arrival

- 2.2.1. All PPTs, and Heads of Faculty / School will receive the most up-to-date list of CIC and CL students and this list will be available to PPTs on their secure site.
- 2.2.2. Any difficult behaviour will need to be referred to Student Welfare so that the College can support the student. The Booklet 'Dealing with Children who have been adopted or foster in schools' written by Linda Gower is available on the Dashboard and in paper copy in Student Welfare.
- 2.2.3. The Virtual School lead and Group Head of Welfare and Safeguarding will meet every term to discuss progress and attendance with the Senior Welfare Officer.

2.3. Reviews

- 2.3.1. The Virtual School will be invited in each term to gather any information they need concerning PEPs.
- 2.3.2. Welfare Officers will attend any social worker led PEP reviews or Child in Care Reviews on behalf of the college.
- 2.3.3. The Student Welfare Administrator will be responsible for coordinating information and a report for the online PEP system which will be sent or uploaded onto the relevant Virtual Schools system.

2.4. Reports

- 2.5. It is important that the young person also receives a copy of their college report. If a report is sent to a children's home, or care provider, reports can often be put on the young person's file without their knowledge. Please therefore ensure that a copy is also given to the student.

3. Additional Support

- 3.1. The College recognises the challenges that young people face when they leave the care system and begin to live independently. We recognise that all parts of society have a responsibility to support care leavers so that they can make a successful transition to adulthood. Young people who find themselves in need of food parcels or independent living support should contact their College Welfare Team.

Revision History

Revision date	Reason for revision	Section number	Changes made
March 22			Policy Originated
Feb 2023	Out of date		Conversion to SAT policy